

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Planning and Building	(2) MEETING DATE 6/21/2016	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Ivana Yeung, Planner / (805) 781-4099	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a resolution authorizing; (1) submittal of a grant application to the FY2015 and FY2016 State Emergency Solutions Grant Program, and (2) the Director of the Planning and Building Department to sign the standard agreement and all other documents required for participation. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing; 1) the Director of the Planning and Building Department to submit an application and certifications to the State Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) and, 2) the Director of Planning and Building to sign the Standard Agreement and execute all agreements necessary to implement programs if the application is approved.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) State Emergency Solutions Grant Program	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT N/A	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT N/A	(9) BUDGETED? No
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ___) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ___)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: <u>February 23, 2016</u>	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Lisa M. Howe			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Ivana Yeung, Planner, Housing Section

VIA: Matt Janssen, Division Manager, Policy and Programs

DATE: 6/21/2016

SUBJECT: Request to approve a resolution authorizing; (1) submittal of a grant application to the FY2015 and FY2016 State Emergency Solutions Grant Program, and (2) the Director of the Planning and Building Department to sign the standard agreement and all other documents required for participation. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing; 1) the Director of the Planning and Building Department to submit an application and certifications to the State Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) and, 2) the Director of Planning and Building to sign the Standard Agreement and execute all agreements necessary to implement programs if the application is approved.

DISCUSSION

Background

The Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program provides funds for a variety of activities to address homelessness as authorized under the federal HEARTH Act of 2009 and State program requirements. The State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD or Department) administers the ESG program with funding received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The federal ESG program provides grant funding to: (1) engage homeless individuals and families living on the street, (2) rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families, (3) help operate and provide essential services in emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families, and (4) prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless. ESG funds may be used for four primary activities: Street Outreach, Rapid Re-Housing Assistance, Emergency Shelter, and Homelessness Prevention. In addition, ESG funds may be used for associated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) costs, and administrative activities for some sub recipients.

Current Program

In January 2016, the State of California Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) published a Solicitation of Interest notifying counties that the State was revising its McKinney-Vento Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program. Prior to fiscal year 2015, HCD conducted a statewide competition for allocation the State ESG funds. The State ESG program has since been re-tooled for FY2015 and FY2016, wherein Continuum of Care Service Areas are awarded a formula grant. The State Department's newly redesigned State ESG Program aims to align with local systems' federal ESG and HEARTH goals, invest in impactful activities based on key performance goals and outcomes, improve geographic distribution of funded activities and continuity of funded activities, and create a streamlined delivery mechanism. The program emphasizes the involvement of local Continuums of Care (CoC) and ESG entitlement entities in the funding distribution process. The State Department has approved the County of San Luis Obispo to act as the Administrative Entity (AE) for the State ESG program funds in collaboration with the County of San Luis Obispo CoC. The

combined FY 2015 and FY 2016 State ESG Allocation for the San Luis Obispo CoC is \$224,092; less 2% administration to the AE (2.7% maximum for AE administration costs), the available program funding for projects is \$219,612. State ESG-funded activities may serve the entire service area of the CoC, but must serve Nonentitlement areas within the service area, i.e. the residents/populations in the City of Grover Beach. In addition, State Regulation requires that a minimum of 40% of the CoC Allocation must be spent on Rapid Re-housing activities.

Provider Selection Process

The Planning Department received two applications for the State ESG funding opportunity. Both applications met the threshold requirements for State Regulation Core Practices (Section 8709), which include Housing First/low-barrier practices, and the applications were scored based on the criteria scoring guideline in Section 8407. After scoring and deliberation, the committee recommended both projects for funding eligibility. The Grant Review Committee initially expressed concern for the eligibility of the Family Care Network’s Housing Support Program (HSP) because it targeted specifically the subpopulation of households of adults and children (i.e. homeless families), which was inconsistent with regulation Section 8408. However, Section 8408 ‘Eligible Activities’ also includes the following exception: “For Rapid Rehousing and Homelessness Prevention activities, no subpopulation targeting will be permitted except...there is existing funding in the CoC Services Area for programs that address the needs of the excluded populations for these activities”. 5CHC’s Rapid Re-housing and Homelessness Prevention project serves both households with adults and children and households with only adults. Since the two projects together address all subpopulations, the committee is able to recommend Family Care Network’s project in conjunction with 5CHC’s project. In order to meet the state ESG goals and program efficacy, staff will work with ESG subrecipients to revise project scopes to provide coverage for service populations. For example, 5CHC’s project could provide housing and services to families that do not meet the requirements of FCNI’s (CalWORKS) HSP. For both project scopes, budgets will be amended such that Rapid Re-housing activities for the state allocation will amount to at least 40%.

The Committee supports the new project and collaboration spearheaded by 5Cities Homeless Coalition, ECHO, and the LINK and suggests an award amount of \$145,000, or approximately two-thirds of the ESG total funding. This award amount is to reflect the Committee’s recognition of the need for homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing funding, which has already been depleted for the year with an additional unmet need; 5CHC’s collaborative efforts; and the costs for starting a new program. The Committee supports the Family Care Network, Inc. project to extend the impact of the State CalWORKS Housing Support Program (HSP) and suggests an award amount of \$74,612.

STATE ESG RECOMMENDATIONS				
Applicant	Project	1-Year Request	Score	Award
5CHC/ECHO/LINK	Rapid Re-housing and Homelessness Prevention	\$132,000	88%	\$145,000
Family Care Network, Inc.	Rapid Re-housing	\$110,000	75%	\$74,612
PROJECT TOTAL				\$219,612
Administrative Entity	Administration and staffing	\$4,480	n/a	\$4,480
TOTAL ALLOCATION				\$224,092

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

Staff consulted with County Counsel. Additionally, an ad hoc grant review sub-committee of the HSOC discussed and recommended ESG-eligible providers for the State ESG funding. Staff also discussed the State ESG competition in detail during the State ESG RFP interest meeting with CAPSLO, Middlehouse, Women’s Shelter Program, the Central Coast LINK, North County Connection, People’s Self Help Housing, and ECHO.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

If the provider selections are approved, the State ESG program may result in \$224,092 in grant funds being secured, wherein two percent (2%) of the formula grant in the amount of \$4,480 may be used for administering and managing the grant. A request to increase revenues and expenditures associated with State Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

program funds in the amount of \$224,092 was included in the FY 2016-17 Supplemental Budget.

RESULTS

Funds resulting from this grant application will enable the following if funded:

1. Operation of Rapid Rehousing and Homelessness Prevention programs County-wide
2. Operation of a Homeless Management Information System to track clients being served in the County.

Funds from this grant will enable homeless persons to receive needed services and housing. This includes assisting clients to find stable permanent housing, aid with accessing emergency food, shelter, and medical assistance, and transportation resources.

By enabling homeless persons to obtain the services they need to survive and stay healthy, this request would contribute toward the communitywide indicator of *A Healthy Community*.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Exhibit A - Resolution